

The creation of an executive department be known as the department of agriculture by the act of February 9, last, was a step in the right direction, which I hope will long be more respectfully urged by the farmers of the country, but much remains to be done. The perfect organization of the department is a task which the expectations which existed. In this connection, attention is called to suggestions made by the secretary of the department, which is herewith submitted. The making of an office for the department such as is provided for the other executive departments is a significant step. It is necessary to progress to make the usual provision for publication of the annual reports should be made. The public interest in the report and its value to the communities, I am sure, will not be diminished from the new organization of the department.

I recommend that the weather service be removed from the war department and be placed as a bureau in the department of agriculture. This is the only logical organization, both of the weather bureau and of the signal corps, making of the first a part of the organization and of the other a separate unit.